

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(PL)319**

**(Question Serial No. 5794)**

Head: (82) Buildings Department  
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified  
Programme: (1) Buildings and Building Works  
Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings (AU Choi-kai)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question (Member Question No. 351):

1. Regarding the handling of dangerous and abandoned signboards, what were the respective numbers of repair orders and removal orders issued by the Buildings Department in each of the past three years?
2. How many repair orders or removal orders have not yet been complied with after the specified time and remain outstanding? Please list, according to the nature of the orders, the respective numbers of statutory orders not yet complied with for one to three years, four to six years, seven to nine years, and ten years or above after the specified time.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

1. Where dangerous or abandoned signboards are found, the Buildings Department (BD) will issue advisory letters to the signboard owners (or to the owners' corporations/management companies of the buildings in cases where the signboard owners cannot be identified) to demand voluntary removal of the signboards. If dangerous or abandoned signboards have not been removed or repaired after a specified period, BD will carry out enforcement action by issuing Dangerous Structure Removal Notices (DSRNs) under section 105 of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) requiring the signboard owners concerned to remove or repair their signboards within a specified period. Where DSRNs have not been complied with after the expiry of DSRNs, BD may arrange consultants and contractors to remove the dangerous or abandoned signboards concerned and recover any expenses incurred in the removal and in the disposal of the materials from the owners afterwards.

Most of the dangerous or abandoned signboards identified were removed voluntarily by the signboard owners concerned upon verbal advice of BD or receipt of advisory letters from BD. In the past three years, the number of DSRNs issued is tabulated below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>No. of DSRNs issued</b>
2011-12	249
2012-13	259
2013-14 (up to 15.3.2014)	321
<b>Total</b>	<b>829</b>

2. Up to March 2014, there are 140 outstanding DSRNs which have yet been complied with. They have been outstanding for one to three years.